

LATEST MARKET REPORT FURNISHED BY E. F. SANGUINETTI	
Cotton	12 1/2c
Milo Maze, ton	\$38.00
Petereta, ton	\$39.00
Alfalfa hay, ton	\$18.50
Barley, ton	\$47.40
Wheat, ton	\$59.00

ARIZONA SENTINEL

FEARLESS CHAMPION OF CITY OF YUMA, YUMA PROJECT
AND YUMA COUNTY

LATEST MARKET REPORT FURNISHED BY J. M. BALSZ	
Cattle	5 1/4c to 8c
Hogs	7 1/4c to 8 1/4c
Lambs	11c
Turkeys	24c
Chicks	14c
Eggs	40c

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VALUABLE INFORMATION ON EGYPTIAN COTTON

Some time ago President Thacker and Secretary D. L. DeVane, of the Water Users' Association, addressed a communication to Superintendent R. E. Blair, of the Yuma Experiment Farm, Bard, Cal., asking his valuable advice as to how and when to plant Egyptian cotton, as well as various other questions pertaining to the proper cultivation of that particular staple. They wanted this information for the benefit of the members of their association, as well as for the general good of those who contemplate planting the Egyptian variety of cotton. They knew that Superintendent Blair had given the matter great thought, for he has experimented with it on a liberal scale at the Bard farm. It is therefore a great pleasure to be permitted the privilege of giving Supt. Blair's reply prominent space in this issue of the ARIZONA SENTINEL, for I love nothing so well as to be able to help the good people of Yuma Project. Here is Superintendent Blair's communication in full. Read it carefully, and not only that, but know that Mr. Blair knows exactly what he is writing about.

Bard, Cal., Jan. 27, 1917

Mr. D. L. DeVane, Secretary Yuma Water Users' Association,
Yuma, Arizona.

Dear Mr. DeVane: It is good to know that the Egyptian cotton growers of the Yuma Project for the coming season are beginning now to look into the necessary features of culture that must be observed for maximum production of this crop. In reply to your list of inquiries which the members of your association are now so often submitting, I am answering with statements drawn from the observation and behavior of various cultural experiments and the commercial production of this crop in past seasons both on Yuma Project and in Salt River Valley.

DATE TO PLANT.

Egyptian cotton being a crop that gains advantage by a long season, much more than other types of cotton, should be planted as early as possible, still not taking too great a chance in having the plants killed by freezing. The plants will, however, sometimes withstand light frosts, which may brown the leaves but not damage the plants sufficiently to necessitate replanting. The crop should be planted during the thirty days following February 20. In areas where the season is known to be late and cold it would be well to plant during the latter half of this period.

PREPARATION OF SOIL AND PLANTING.

Cotton lands should be nearly flat—or leveled with only a slight slope. Fields for planting should be plowed thoroughly, leveled and prepared for planting before irrigating. Immediately after irrigating, as soon as the soil is dry enough to bear up horses and tools a surface soil mulch should be established with a spring tooth harrow or by a shallow discing as the type of soil would require, and followed immediately with the planter. It is very important that the seed be planted while the soil is moist so that it will germinate readily and judgment should be exercised in not watering more land at one time than can be planted before becoming too dry.

The seed should be planted in moist soil but not deeper than two inches; one and one-quarter inches being most desirable. Very commonly, poor stands are due to planting too deep.

I have found a great advantage in planting, gained from the use of a wooden shoe on each planter shoe which will crowd away the dry surface soil or clods. These may be made like a "V" ten inches broad, bolting the point through the steel planter shoe. Either a single row or double row planter may be used but the latter is preferable—making the planting operation more rapid and the depth more even.

Any standard make of combination cotton and corn planter is good. An open wheel is more desirable than a solid wheel. A combination tool of this sort can then be used for planting all other row crops being grown here.

AMOUNT OF SEED PER ACRE.

Twenty pounds of seed per acre is sufficient to produce a good stand where the soil is well prepared but under less favorable conditions, may be increased or even doubled. It has been found desirable to increase the amount of seed per acre on some of the heaviest silt soils where there is some difficulty experienced in securing good stands and on some of the very heaviest of these soils it is sometimes advisable to plant on ridges, allowing irrigation in the furrows without covering the ridges in order to germinate the seed.

WIDTH OF ROWS.

On soil that produces heavily the rows should be four feet apart. Closer plantings will produce too much shade for the setting of bolls.

On soils that produce smaller plants the rows may be placed from three to three and one-half feet apart.

DISTANCE TO THIN IN ROWS.

The ideal method is to thin twice, the first thinning being made when plants are about six inches high to two or three inches apart in the row. This distance will allow the remaining plants to develop until larger and stronger before ready for the final thinning, then when the thinning is done in one operation. The final thinning distance that plants should occupy in the row is again governed by the soil. Plants on the rank growing soils should stand one in a place from 14 to 18 inches apart in the row, while those on the lighter producing soil should stand at 8 to 12 inches apart. If due to a lack of labor or time, only one thinning is possible—this should be made when the plants are about 8 to 10 inches high.

IRRIGATION.

No definite rule can be stated for irrigating cotton as the different types of soil bring about such different conditions. However, the following facts should always be borne in mind. Cotton planted as described should stand without irrigation as long as it shows no signs of suffering from drought. All early irrigations should be applied very sparingly until the flowers are beginning to set. At this time irrigation may be increased to such frequency as to keep the soil moisture continually available and allow the crop to suffer no check from drought through the balance of the season. This is not to say, however, that cotton cannot be over-irrigated at that season. I believe that the greatest wisdom necessary in growing Egyptian cotton successfully is to know when to irrigate.

CULTIVATION.

Normally two early cultivations should be made before the first irrigation of the small cotton is necessary. On some soils the first may be given by crossing the field with an ordinary spike tooth harrow, with the teeth set well back. In all other cultivations the cultivator should be set to throw the earth to the plant, leaving furrows between the rows that will answer for irrigation furrows.

Cultivation should always follow every irrigation or rain, as long as horses can get through the field without breaking down the stalks. If desirable we may take up the subject of late cultivation again.

Any standard two horse cultivator of either a shovel or disc type is good, a combination implement sometimes being a good investment. The disc cultivator is often very useful where the field has previously been infested with Bermuda grass. In such a case cultivation should be kept up continually until the crop is large enough to control Bermuda grass by its dense shade.

I trust that these statements will in a way help to establish in the minds of inquirers the cultural features necessary to be recognized in the production of this crop.

Very truly yours,
R. E. BLAIR,
Farm Superintendent.

GOOD PEOPLE, BEWARE OF "MR. FAIRES OF GILA"

An attempt is being made by "Mr. Faures of Gila," (by request) to saddle a race-track bill on the unsuspecting people of Arizona. This is a note of warning to the good people of this state that they had best beware, lest this nefarious measure becomes the law of the land.

I want my friends, and the readers of the ARIZONA SENTINEL in particular, to thoroughly understand that I do not profess to be an angel, nor a moralist, neither am I puritanical or bigotted in my views. But there are certain things that have been driven into my head that are there to stay, and one of these things is my opposition to a race track. I don't mean that I am opposed to an occasional horse race, for it is the "sport of Kings," but I do mean that I am unalterably opposed to permitting the good name of the "baby state" to be dragged into the mire by a lot of thugs, thieves, blackguards, touts and gamblers who would flock here by the thousand, should this bill just introduced in the Arizona legislature become a law.

Briefly it provides that "a state racing commission is hereby established, to consist of five persons, three of whom, to be appointed by the governor, shall be breeders of OR INTEL ESTED IN THE RACING OF THOROUGHBREDS. . . the remaining two members shall be the chairman and secretary-treasurer of the Arizona State Fair Commission."

Nothing is said about citizenship at all. The governor could send to Tia Juana, Mexico, and get the three members "interested in the racing of thoroughbreds," or he might send to California or New York. They would form a majority of the "commission" and it becomes their duty under the proposed law to draft all necessary rules and regulations governing the meeting, which shall be "at least forty days each year," which means that if such a meeting were authorized here in Yuma the commission could permit the meeting to extend all the year, and during that time every tout, gambler, black-leg and their kind disgracing the good and fair name of Yuma.

In this matter of conducting a regular race track, I am morally certain I know what I am talking about, for I was "in the game" for upwards of six years, occupying high and responsible official positions all during that time. There was never a "crooked race" pulled off at any of the many metropolitan tracks I was connected with but what punishment was promptly meted out to the guilty party or parties, if we caught them. That is not my objection to the race track, for they CAN BE MADE to race on the square, and it was my pleasure to always help do it. My objection is the

class of people who are most frequently seen about a race track. They are the rag-tag, bob-tail, degenerates of mankind and womankind. Of course nice people, even very strict church people are sometimes seen on the race track, but where you see one of this class you see a thousand of the other.

When I "quit the game," in 1896, twenty-one years ago, I did so because of failing health. In fact my health got so bad that all the best doctors in San Francisco said I needed was an undertaker. I conceived it to be my duty to write a history of my life and leave it for my son, for he was away back east at school. To show what I then thought of the "racing game" I take the liberty of reproducing just a few lines from that book, written wholly for my son, but because of my recovery I still have it in my possession, nor has he ever been told that it was written. Now read these few lines:

"—and at all these race tracks I was either manager, judge, or clerk of scales, and sometimes all three combined. The salary was always alluring, the 'sport of kings' exciting, my company was fascinating, and the first drink always a temptation to take another, and then another.

"The lowest gambling dives are eminently respectable when compared with a race track for thoroughbreds, for in the gambling hell you come in contact only with conscienceless cut-throats, degraded brutes, cappers and gamblers, whereas, on the race track (and I have been on all of them, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Lakes to the Gulf), you not only come in contact with every gambler and race track tout in town, but you also rub elbows with every cheek-painted harlot in the community, for they are ever there, occupying the front seats, seeking whom they may devour.

"The race track where betting is permitted is simply a licensed incubator and breeding pen for indecency, immorality, theft, robbery. If it doesn't enmesh you in one of these it will in the others. I found that out WHEN IT WAS ALMOST TOO LATE, but thank God no man, woman, or child can ever point to a dishonest act in my entire career."

Those are the words of warning I wrote to my beloved son. He has not needed them, and now at this late date I give them to the young men of my beloved adopted state of Arizona, and I beg them, and I beg their parents, to rise up in their wrath and demand of their representatives and senators in the Arizona legislature that they kill this bill, introduced by Mr. Faures of Gila (by request) so dead that the buzzards will jump on it the very next day.

LET US HOPE FOR THE BEST.

The sudden and unexpected break with Germany has sent a thrill of horror throughout every nook and corner of the United States, for it was but a few days ago President Wilson appeared before the United States senate and delivered the greatest speech advocating world peace, that has ever fallen from the lip of man. His subsequent severance of all diplomatic relations with Germany, handing the German ambassador his passports, and calling our own ambassador home from Germany was the direct outcome of Kaiser William's announcement that he repudiated his former agreement to cease his unholy submarine warfare on neutrals.

It is needless to say that every true, loyal, patriotic American, whether he be native born or naturalized, will uphold the president in his prompt action in challenging the Kaiser's latest ultimatum. This is, therefore, the hour that tries a man's patriotism, tries his loyalty. If the break is no more serious than a mere severance of diplomatic relations this will indeed be a happy country. But no matter what may be the ultimate outcome the incident will at least show us who are our loyal Americans and who are not. The latter class will be small indeed, as compared to the millions upon millions who will rally around "Old Glory" and follow it to the bitter end. Let us all hope for the best. Keep cool; refrain from heated discussions with those who happen to disagree with you; but above all things be loyal to your country.

YUMA VALLEY WATER USERS' ASSOCIATION

The Yuma County Water Users' Association placed itself on record last Monday in no uncertain manner in the matter of indorsing the principles of a bill in the Arizona legislature having for its purpose provisions that will enable "irrigation districts" organized under the state law to co-operate and contract with the United States government. The co-operation may take the form of the construction of original projects, the taking over of operation and maintenance, or of other items in connection with projects already constructed. It occurs to me that the bill is particularly opportune at this time.

The proposed bill is now being considered by both branches of the state legislature, through their committees on agriculture, irrigation and public roads. Senator Winsor is chairman of the senate committee and Representative Edwards, chairman of the house committee, and now that the principles of the measures have received the unqualified support of the board of governors of the Water Users' Association it is safe to assume that the measure will be vigorously urged for passage.

Having had the privilege of reading and studying the proposed measure quite carefully I am of the firm opinion that it should pass. It has in it elements that may prove of vast benefit to Yuma Project as a whole, and to the Mesa Auxiliary in particular. There is nothing in it, so far as I can discern, that can hurt us in the least, for it is purely optional with each association, or project, as to whether they wish to avail themselves of its provisions or not.

The proposed bill contains a provision whereby the PUBLIC LANDS of the United States, entered and unentered, may be assessed and levied upon by irrigation districts, this authority having been given by the act of congress approved August 16, 1916, known as the "Smith Act."

This will enable "irrigation districts" to take advantage of this new and salutary law, one of the most progressive enactments passed by the present congress.

Another reason in my opinion why the proposed bill should pass is the fact that there is now pending in congress what is known as the "Chamberlain bill," conceived to replace the old "Jones Act," which has for its general purpose the encouragement and development of the ARID AND SWAMP lands of the United States. This Chamberlain bill provides that "irrigation district" bonds may, under appropriate contract with the secretary of the interior, be deposited with the United States, and in turn that certificates of indebtedness issued by the government with the bonds as a basis, may be sold for the purpose of raising money to construct new projects. It applies to arid lands, swamp lands, or overflow lands by way of building irrigation works or drainage canals. The bill now before the Arizona legislative committees was drafted

with this proposed act of congress in view. Its passage by our legislature will put Arizona in direct line of availing itself of the advantages of this broad Federal legislation, should it be enacted into law, and that it will be enacted there doesn't seem room for doubt, when it is known that it is what can very appropriately be termed "an administration bill."

The projects already constructed, or in process of construction in the state of Arizona, should receive the benefit of this proposed bill. In other words the bill should pass so that any project that so desires may take advantage of its provisions relating to "irrigation districts" if they so desire. That they will desire it, if the Chamberlain bill becomes a law there can be no doubt. If that bill were the law now it would be as easy as "shooting fish" to get all the money we need to construct the Yuma Mesa Project without a day's delay. I apprehend that will be a very strong factor in securing the passage of the bill, unless the Maricopa delegation seeks to defeat the bill on the grounds that when we get the Mesa Project planted to citrus fruit it may hurt that culture in Maricopa county. However, it is to be hoped that they will not be that narrow between the eyes, nor is it expected they will be.

I am reliably informed that the bill was drafted by the Reclamation Service legal department after conference with our delegation at Phoenix, and that the Water Users' Association was prompted to ask for the passage of some such bill for two reasons. First, that it desired the state to have its law in such shape as to PERMIT of re-organization into an "irrigation district" IF THEY SHOULD AT ANY TIME SO DESIRE; and second, for the broad public spirited reason that the bill seeks to take advantage of all possible co-operation that the government can extend in the matter of building new projects.

It would seem, therefore, that the Water Users' Association, through its board of governors, has done one of the most progressive acts of its career in seeking to have such a law enacted. The measure can in no wise interfere with the present workings of the Water Users' Association. That will continue to do business at the same old stand, until such time as they voluntarily ask to become an "irrigation district," and even in that step it must be done by vote of approval from the entire membership of the Water Users' Association. If they prefer to continue as they are, that will be wholly their business; on the other hand if they see they can better their condition by changing to the "irrigation district" plan, under the proposed law they will have that right, and once having that right they can then issue bonds for any improvement they want to make, and get the money from the federal treasury.

I sincerely hope the Yuma delegation will push the bill to the very limit, and finally enact it into law.

ONLY FROSTLESS LANDS IN THE UNITED STATES

Chester Dewey, the gentleman who presented the Yuma Commercial Club with the old Mission bell found on the Yuma Heights Orange Grove, is the best known fruit expert in the state of California. He was here for several weeks pruning the big orange grove on the mesa and had ample opportunity to judge what effect our very coldest weather has on citrus fruit trees on the mesa.

I had many pleasant conversations with him about citrus fruit culture while he was here and finally persuaded him to agree to give me his impressions before he left. However, on the appointed day I was absent, down near the Gulf of Lower California, in search of the United States army aviators, Colonel Bishop and Lieutenant Robertson. But Mr. Dewey left me a written memorandum, which I consider of such importance that I gladly give it space in this issue of the ARIZONA SENTINEL, for coming from a man of Mr. Dewey's standing in California, the American home of the "Sun kiss" orange, what he says should carry a whole lot of weight among those contemplating engaging

in citrus fruit culture on our unsurpassed mesa.

"Now let me speak of your mesa lands and frostless belt," says Mr. Dewey in his memorandum. "I find the Yuma mesa oranges are the sweetest I have ever tasted for the winter months."

"I have pruned trees, set out trees, budded trees all over the San Joaquin valley, California, around Porterville, Lindsey, Strathmore, and Terra Bella. The soil there is a dry bog, the same as here on the mesa, which is the finest soil in the world for citrus culture. Most all the fruit in the San Joaquin Valley is picked before Christmas. WHY? Just to escape the heavy frosts of that section. Last November the frost caught them before they were ready, with the result that nearly half the crop was frozen."

"Yuma has the great advantage over the San Joaquin valley, for the reason that Yuma mesa lands never have any killing frosts. You don't have to go to the tremendous expense of 'smudging.'"

"Let me pick out another place, Po-

(Continued on Page Four)